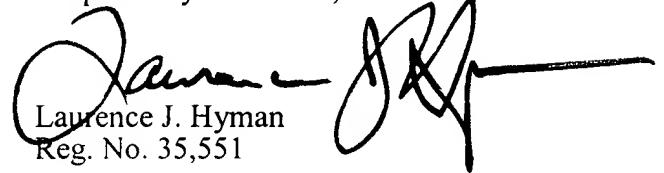


If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, she is invited to telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

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Claims 9, 17, and 21 are amended as follows:

9. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the subsequence encodes a peptide wherein R₁ is Gln, Lys, or Arg; R₂ is Arg; R₃ is Arg; R₄ is Ala; R₅ is Ala; R₆ is Val; R₇ is Asp; R₈ is Thr; R₉ is Tyr; R₁₀ is Cys; R₁₁ is Arg; R₁₂ is His; R₁₃ is Asn; R₁₄ is Tyr; R₁₅ is Gly, and R₁₆ is Val (SEQ ID NO:2).

17. (Amended) The kit of claim 15, wherein R₁ is Gln, Lys, or Arg; R₂ is Arg; R₃ is Arg; R₄ is Ala; R₅ is Ala; R₆ is Val; R₇ is Asp; R₈ is Thr; R₉ is Tyr; R₁₀ is Cys; R₁₁ is Arg; R₁₂ is His; R₁₃ is Asn; R₁₄ is Tyr; R₁₅ is Gly, and R₁₆ is Val (SEQ ID NO:2).

21. (Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein R₁ is Gln, Lys, or Arg; R₂ is Arg; R₃ is Arg; R₄ is Ala; R₅ is Ala; R₆ is Val; R₇ is Asp; R₈ is Thr; R₉ is Tyr; R₁₀ is Cys; R₁₁ is Arg; R₁₂ is His; R₁₃ is Asn; R₁₄ is Tyr; R₁₅ is Gly, and R₁₆ is Val (SEQ ID NO:2).



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PENDING CLAIMS WITH ENTRY OF THE AMENDMENT

7. (As filed) A method for detecting a nucleic acid in a biological sample, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a peptide capable of specifically binding to a Lym-1 antibody, the method comprising the following steps:

(a) contacting the sample with an oligonucleotide primer pair capable of amplifying a subsequence of an MHC nucleic acid, which subsequence encodes a polypeptide comprising a peptide of claim 1,

(b) amplifying the nucleic acid; and

(c) detecting the amplified nucleic acid.

8. (As filed) The method of claim 7, wherein the MHC gene is HLA-DR 10.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the subsequence encodes a peptide wherein R₁ is Gln, Lys, or Arg; R₂ is Arg; R₃ is Arg; R₄ is Ala; R₅ is Ala; R₆ is Val; R₇ is Asp; R₈ is Thr; R₉ is Tyr; R₁₀ is Cys; R₁₁ is Arg; R₁₂ is His; R₁₃ is Asn; R₁₄ is Tyr; R₁₅ is Gly, and R₁₆ is Val (SEQ ID NO:2).

10. (As filed) The method of claim 7, wherein the biological sample comprises a B cell.

11. (As filed) The method of claim 10, wherein the B cell is a B lymphocytic non-Hodgkin's lymphoma cell.

12. (As filed) The method of claim 11, wherein the non-Hodgkin's lymphoma cell is selected from the group consisting of a B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma (B-CCL/SLL) cell, a lymphoplasmacytoid lymphoma (LPL) cell, a follicular lymphoma (FL) cell, a mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue lymphoma

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(MALTL) cell, a splenic lymphoma with villous lymphocytes (SLVL) cell and a mantle cell lymphoma cell.

13. (As filed) The method of claim 7, wherein the biological sample is a body fluid sample or a biopsy sample.

14. (As filed) The method of claim 13, wherein the body fluid sample is a blood sample.

15. (As filed) A kit for detecting a nucleic acid in a biological sample, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a peptide capable of specifically binding to a Lym-1 antibody, comprising an oligonucleotide primer pair capable of amplifying a subsequence of an MHC gene or gene product, which subsequence encodes a polypeptide comprising a peptide of claim 1.

16. (As filed) The kit of claim 15, wherein the MHC gene is HLA-DR 10.

17. (Amended) The kit of claim 15, wherein R₁ is Gln, Lys, or Arg; R₂ is Arg; R₃ is Arg; R₄ is Ala; R₅ is Ala; R₆ is Val; R₇ is Asp; R₈ is Thr; R₉ is Tyr; R₁₀ is Cys; R₁₁ is Arg; R₁₂ is His; R₁₃ is Asn; R₁₄ is Tyr; R₁₅ is Gly, and R₁₆ is Val (SEQ ID NO:2).

18. (As filed) The kit of claim 15, further comprising an instructional material teaching a use of the kit, wherein the instructional material indicates that the kit is used for the detection of nucleic acid encoding a peptide reactive with a Lym-1 antibody and that the polypeptide is associated with non-Hodgkin's B cell lymphomas.

19. (As filed) A method for detecting an antibody reactive with a non-Hodgkin's B cell lymphoma cell, comprising:

(a) contacting a sample with a composition of claim 1 under immunologically reactive conditions, and

(a) detecting whether an antibody has specifically bound to the composition.

20. (As filed) The method of claim 19, wherein the sample is a biological sample.

21. (Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein R₁ is Gln, Lys, or Arg; R₂ is Arg; R₃ is Arg; R₄ is Ala; R₅ is Ala; R₆ is Val; R₇ is Asp; R₈ is Thr; R₉ is Tyr; R₁₀ is Cys; R₁₁ is Arg; R₁₂ is His; R₁₃ is Asn; R₁₄ is Tyr; R₁₅ is Gly, and R₁₆ is Val (SEQ ID NO:2).

22. (As filed) The method of claim 19, wherein the antibody is generated by a recombinant nucleic acid library.

23. (As filed) The method of claim 22, wherein the recombinant nucleic acid is a phage display library.

24. (As filed) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition is fixed to a solid surface.